

PENTECOST SUNDAY 2026

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today the Church celebrates the beautiful feast of Pentecost — the birthday of the Church. The frightened disciples who were hiding behind closed doors became courageous witnesses of Christ because the Holy Spirit entered their lives.

In the Gospel, we see the disciples locked in fear. The doors were closed. Their hearts were broken. Their hopes seemed lost after the death of Jesus. And suddenly, Jesus comes and stands among them and says: “Peace be with you.” Then He breathes on them and gives them the Holy Spirit.

That detail is very touching — Jesus breathes on them.

When God created Adam, He breathed life into him. Today, Jesus breathes new life into His disciples. The Holy Spirit is not just a power; the Holy Spirit is the breath of God within us. Without breath, the body dies. Without the Spirit, the soul becomes tired, cold, and empty.

Many people today live with closed doors in their hearts:
closed by fear,
closed by disappointment,
closed by loneliness,
closed by guilt,
closed by wounds from the past.

Sometimes we also come to church with closed hearts. We smile outside, but inside there is pain nobody sees.

But Pentecost tells us something beautiful: no closed door can stop Jesus.

The Holy Spirit enters where human strength cannot reach.

In the first reading from Acts, the Spirit comes like a strong wind and fire. Wind cannot be controlled. Fire gives light and warmth. The Holy Spirit still does the same today. He comes to remove fear, to purify hearts, and to set souls on fire with God's love.

And then something extraordinary happens: people from many nations hear the apostles speaking in their own language.

The miracle of Pentecost is not only speaking different languages. The real miracle is understanding. The Spirit creates unity among differences.

Our world today is divided:
nations against nations,
families against families,
people hurt by words, anger, and misunderstanding.

Even in families, sometimes people live in the same house but stop speaking to each other with love.

The Holy Spirit heals division. The Spirit teaches us the language of love, forgiveness, patience, and compassion.

Saint Paul reminds us in the second reading: "There are different gifts, but the same Spirit."

Not everyone is called to do the same thing. Some can preach. Some can sing. Some can teach. Some silently care for the sick, pray for others, or comfort the lonely. Every gift matters in the Church.

The Holy Spirit does not ask us to be someone else. He asks us to offer who we are.

A small candle may think its light is insignificant. But when thousands of candles burn together, darkness disappears.

That is the Church.

Dear friends, perhaps today we should ask ourselves:
What door in my heart is still closed?
What fear is controlling me?
Where do I need the Holy Spirit most?

Maybe someone here needs the Spirit's peace.
Maybe someone needs courage.
Maybe someone needs healing in a relationship.
Maybe someone has lost hope and needs new fire in the heart.

Pentecost is not just an event from the past. It is happening now. The same Spirit is present here in this church, ready to renew us.

Let us pray today with simplicity and trust:

"Come, Holy Spirit.
Enter my heart.
Remove my fear.
Heal my wounds.
Fill me with Your peace.
Make me an instrument of Your love."

And may Mary, the Mother of the Church, who prayed with the disciples at Pentecost, help us to open our hearts completely to the Holy Spirit.

Amen.